(b) to (d) The thrust of the proposed amendments is to improve the functioning of the redressal mechanism under the Act and also to enhance penal provisions of the Act. It is also proposed to provide more frequent revision of the minimum wages.

(e) and (f) The proposed amendment to the Act also aims at doing away with the existing provision of fixation different rates of wages in respect of child workers so as to discourage employment of children.

(g) and (h) Demands for fixing national minimum wages for agricultural and unorganised workers have been received from time to time. While it has not been possible to fix a uniform national minimum wage due to diversity in economy and geographical conditions within the country, in its last meeting the Indian Labour Conference has decided that while fixing the minimum wages the appropriate Government should ensure that no minimum wage is fixed below an agreed floor level wage.

[Translation]

Refund of Tickets

2962. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Consumer Court of Delhi have ordered the Railways that if the refund of rail passenger ticket is not made within two weeks time then the Railways will have to pay the refund with interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which this order the being implemented; and

(d) the State-wise details thereof and the number of cases in which refunds have been made by the Railways with interest upto December, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The cases in which Railways have paid refund on the orders of the Consumer Forums of the respective states are as follows :

Orissa	-	7
Maharashrta	-	1
Kerala	-	1
Punjab	-	1

All India Radio Malyalam Unit

2963. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some staff of Malyalam unit of News Service Division, All India Radio, New Delhi are also doing private works;

(b) whether they have taken any permission for doing such works; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No such case has come to the notice of Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Demand for increase in the Indian Airlines Flights

2964. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have demanded for increase in the Indian Airlines Flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have considered some of these demands; and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d) Requests are constantly being received from various State Governments for introduction of flights/ increase in frequency of flights etc. in their respective States. Action is initiated to meet their demand keeping in view the traffic potential. Private operators are also being encouraged to operate flights in sectors which are not covered by Indian Airlines, keeping in view the infrastructural facilities available at various airports and the traffic potential.

Unauthorised Construction

2965. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation have been made by the Government to check unauthorised construction/alteration and subletting of P&T quarters in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, locality-wise;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty; and.

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop such activities?